

THE
LAMENTATIONS
OF
The PEOPLE
OF
FRANCE,
FOUND UNDER
The KING's COVER,
AT
VERSAILLES.

*Et nunc Reges intelligite, erudimini
qui Judicatis Terram.*

Translated into *English*, by a GENTLEMAN
just arrived from FRANCE.



L O N D O N:

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and Country.

[Price SIX-PENCE].

THE LAMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE IN THE KINGDOM OF FRANCE VERMOREL



Translated from the French of
 the late M. de Vermorel
 by
 J. O. M. D. N.
 Printed in the Year 1795: And sold by
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The Lamentations of the People of **FRANCE.**

May it please your Majesty,

WE your Majesty's most distressed and most injured Subjects, take this Method to lay open before your Eyes the Grievances of the Nation: We have many dreadful Truths to tell you, Sir, and as you never had Courage enough to take the Government of Affairs upon yourself, nor even the commendable Desire of being informed of the true State of your Kingdom, we shall set forth the Calamities which threaten this once flourishing Empire.

It is the general Opinion, that every Nobleman and Gentlemam of your Kingdom, ought to think himself very happy to lay down his Life and Fortune in your Majesty's Service; but that immoderate Ambition which costs so many Thousands of your Subjects Lives, disgraces the Dignity of a King, who is the Deputy of God to administer

Justice indifferently, and whose constant Application ought to be to make happy the People committed to his Care.

It is a great Misfortune for a Prince, Sir, not to have received a proper Education, and to have been obsest from his Infancy, by vile and base Flatterers, and intriguing Courtiers, always watchful to remove Truth from the Throne. God has not always endowed Princes with that superior Wisdom and exquisite Understanding which make a Reign illustrious, but he seldom denies them a certain share of Sense and Judgment, to admit in their Councils and Intimacy, none but those upright and incorruptible Men whose Principles and Labours prevent, at least, a powerful Nation from falling into Discredit and Contempt to its Neighbours.

If you had followed, Sir, those Instructions which your Royal Great Grandfather †, moved with Pity, Remorses, and Grief, in his last Moments gave you, when he reflected upon the Disasters which his Ambition had brought upon his People, you had avoided the same unhappy Errors. He left you, Sir, a vast and populous Kingdom: Instead of engaging yourself in many unjust, expensive, and bloody Wars, what true Glory had you acquired in easing many Millions of your Subjects, and in lessening the heavy Taxes under which they are almost sinking.

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THE *French*, who have been always remarkable for their Love for their King, conferred upon you the Title of *Beloved*, with the Hopes that you would deserve it; be yourself your Judge, Sir, and consider if you ever did an Act to that Purpose.

WE shall pass over the Time of the Regency, when the Royal Authority was in the Hands of a Prince † who did every Thing of a sudden which clashes with the general Notions of Virtue and Decency: Loose in his Manners, he was still more so in his Discourses: Without mending the popular Clamours, he attacked all at once the Fortune, Honour, and Vanity of many respectable Bodies * and private Men. He made the *French* fight against their Friends, and forced them to be Allies of their natural Enemies. He overturned in one's Cups all the Political Systems of the Kingdom. That Prince who had but a precarious Authority, that any other had never preserved, without Contradiction, even in making use of it with great Discretion, was a Man very Arbitrary: Sprightly, amiable, and gracious, he play'd with the Affairs of State, and was wholly employed to gratify his Passions. The greatest Change that ever happened was looked upon by the Nation as a new Scene upon the Stage, because all the Actors were brisk and merry; and from the most voluptuous Banquets sprung that famous System § which loaded many private Persons with ideal Riches, with

† Philip Duke of Orleans.

* The Parliament.

§ The System of Law.

with fair Promises to clear the State from its real Debts.

His first Minister †, infamous by his Licentiousness and Debauchery, without any Regard for his Character, died with Contempt and Ignominy.

THE Duke of *Bourbon*, who succeeded to the Regent, was the Author of the most unequal Match that ever was made. He married a King of *France* to a Princess whose Father * had nothing but the empty Title of a King. His Scheme was to establish his Authority under the Protection of a Queen of his own Choice.

THE good Cardinal *Fleury* who governed so many Years the *French* Monarchy, and took a particular Care to divert your Majesty from the public Affairs, was a Minister of a sweet and affable Temper, and of a pacifick Disposition; laborious, frugal, just, prudent, and moderate; he had not, perhaps, the Political Parts of his Predecessors §, but he was not tainted with their Vices: He was always attentive to maintain the Peace with his Neighbours, and if he did nothing memorable during his Ministry, (excepting the Acquisition of *Lorrain*) he never engaged the Nation in a War unjust. He was charged with having purchased the Peace at an exorbitant Rate, and to have exhausted the Kingdom of Money: But however it be, he died of Grief to see his Measures abortive.

EVERY

† Cardinal Dubois.

* Stanislaus.

§ The Cardinals Richlieu and Mazarine.

EVERY Body's Eyes were upon you at his Death, Sir, and the Nation, prejudiced against the old Cardinal and his Maxims, thought the Moment was come to exert yourself, and to hold the Reins of the Empire. You did not design, indeed, a First Minister to his Place; but Count *D'Argenson* govern'd more absolutely than the Cardinal ever did.

AFTER the most solemn Promises to be a Guarantee of the Pragmatic Sanction, the Emperor *Charles VI.* was no sooner dead, but you framed the Design to strip his Heiress of so many Dominions, and to raise to the Imperial Dignity the Elector of *Bavaria*. What Claim had you to lay to the Dominions of the Queen of *Hungary*, and what Right to elect an Emperor? We know that you have been passive in that Affair, as you are in all others of the greatest Importance: But when you give the Royal Assent to all the ambitious Schemes of your Ministry, don't you think yourself answerable to God and to your Subjects for all the Abuses committed under the Seal of the Royal Authority? In fine, What was the Advantage of the last War, and of two or three Victories that we have so much boasted of? If you know the Price of the Blood of your Subjects, shed Tears for so many thousand of them who have sacrificed their Lives for your pretended Glory, and great many more, who have perished in *Bohemia* and *Germany*, of Want, Misery, and Fatigues.

THE Elector of *Bavaria*, † that you did glory
to

† Charles VII.

to support, after having been crowned King of *Bohemia* and elected Emperor, was nothing, in Fact, but a Pensioner of *France*, and a Generalissimo of the *French* Forces without Authority. What Benefit did he reap from his Alliance? To be stript of all his Dominions, banished from his own Capital, and after so many Disasters, to die the most unfortunate Prince of the Universe!

BECAUSE *Don Philip* married one of your Majesty's Daughters, must your Subjects lavish their Blood to procure him a Settlement? Are they happier now to see that Prince Duke of *Parma* and *Placentia*?

THOSE bloody Sieges in *Austrian Flanders* and *Piemont* *, where some of your Generals play'd with the Lives of Men, disgrace Humanity.

To what Purpose, Sir, is all the Pageantry and Ostentation of your Court? Consider how many Millions of your poor Subjects are oppressed to support that empty Shew! Do you think you should be less beloved and respected, less great and powerful, if you should live with more Decency, Order, and Oeconomy? What prodigious Sums of Money cost those Journies to *Compiègne*, *Fontainebleau*, *Marly*, *St. Germain*, *Choisy*, *La Meute*, &c. You could, Sir, set out a Fleet for the Money you squander away in going backwards and forwards.

THOSE

* Mors and Laffiette.

THOSE little familiar Suppers in your private Apartments, where Licentiousness and Debauchery presides, are unbecoming the Dignity of a King, whose Circumspection, Prudence, and Reservedness, ought to be the true Character.

THE object of Gaming, in its Institution, was Recreation; but you, Sir, are taken up by the bait of a great Gain: You play very high, and it is a special Favour for any Nobleman of your Kingdom, to have the Privilege to ruin himself and his Family in a Sitting at Lansquenet, which is your favourite Game. Some of your General Officers* have been distressed for Money, and were incapable to take the Field, because they had lost twenty thousand Pounds in one Winter at *Versailles*. What Shame for a King to be the Instrument of the Ruin of his Subjects, and to have never made any Amends for their Losses!

THO' the Salick Law excludes Females from the Crown of *France*, it has been always the Fate of that Kingdom to be govern'd by the King's Mistresses. The Dutches of *Chateauroux*, and her Sisters that your Majesty did not dislike, were the first that you pitched upon for your Amours. Call to your Mind, Sir, those Days of Trouble and Confusion, when the Enemies making Incursions in your Frontiers, you lay dangerously ill at *Metz*: The Nation, who looked upon the Dutches as the Author of all her Misfortunes, was
B incensed

* The Marquisses de Tressan and Fimarcon.

incensed against her to the highest Degree; nevertheless your disconsolate Subjects went in Crowds at the Foot of the Altars, to solicit, by the most fervent Prayers, your Recovery: They pity'd your Weakness, and flatter'd themselves with the hopes that from henceforth you would adhere to the wisest Maxims of Government, calculated for their Happiness. What a moving Sight for a King, who feels the inexpressible Pleasure to be beloved!

THAT worthy Prelate the Bishop of *Soissons**, like *Ambrosius*, ready to sacrifice all human Considerations to the Duties of his sacred Ministry, attended your Majesty in these critical Moments: He insisted upon your making a public Reparation to your Subjects, for the bad Example you gave them, in renouncing immediately and for ever, to all sorts of Correspondence with the Dutchess. You did indeed promise it solemnly, but scarce was you recovered, that you called those authentical Promises the Effects of a Delirium: You took the Dutchess again; and sent into Exile the virtuous Bishop, who had the Courage to represent to you the Obligations of a King. She enjoyed but a few Days the Triumph of her Beauty; Death put an End to her precious Charms, and your Blindness. It appears, Sir, that you never believe in God but when you are Sick.

INSTEAD of reflecting upon yourself after the Death of that unhappy Woman, in the prime of Life,

* Duke of Fitz-James.

Life, and making your Peace with a Queen, whose Virtue, at least, ought to be respected, you fell again into the same Errors. You, Sir, who are afraid to do an Act of Sovereignty for the good of your Subjects, are not ashamed to use the Royal Authority to take away from her Husband's Arms a Wife, whom he loved to Distraction. Tho' every Body in your Kingdom knows the obscurity of her Birth, you heap up Riches and Honours upon her, and her Relations; And the greatest Affront and Indignity offered to your Royal Consort is, to have compelled her Majesty to accept of the Marchioness of *Pompadour* for a Lady of Honour. That Woman must have a great deal of Impudence, and the Queen an uncommon Patience. Assure you, Sir, that a King, ever so Absolute, is the Depositary of the Treasure of his Subjects; he ought, like a good Father, employ it for their Benefit, their Support, the Preservation of their Persons and Property. What Grievances for the Nation to see her Substance wasted, great many Millions lavished every Year, to satisfy the unsatiable Desires of an imperious and extravagant Mistress. Nothing can equal her Rapaciousness but her Profusion; and indeed the one is the effect of the other. All *Europe* knows that she governs you and your Kingdom: She appoints and removes Ministers of State; she designs the Chiefs and Generals of the Army; in fine, she fills up all the Places of Trust with her Creatures.

BELLEVEUE is a standing Monument of the
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is One of the Marchioness's Palaces.

scandalous Profusion of the Monarch who built it; and of the wonderful Ascendant of a Woman upon her Royal Master. She has brought you, Sir, into a vile Subjection, and kept you in the Ignorance of all public Affairs concerning your Kingdom. That artful Woman teaches before Hand, every one of your Courtiers, who is admitted to your familiarity, what he ought to tell; so it is impossible that Truth can reach the Throne, by that impure Organ.

It is one of your Maxims, Sir, never to restore to the public Employ, whoever has had the misfortune to fall in your Majesty's Disgrace: Nevertheless Infallibility is not an Attribute of the Royal Dignity.

M. *Chauvelin*, that great Statesman, was certainly guilty of Ingratitude towards the Cardinal *Fleury*, to whom he did owe his advancement to the Ministry; but he was a Man of Genius; cool, active, cautious, politic, and penetrating; he had all the Parts of a great Minister, and your Majesty might have employed his Talents for the good of the Nation.

COUNT *Maurepas*, the Minister of the Navy, was a Man of great Sagacity; he had a Genius fit for his Place, a sound Judgment and a quick Apprehension: He had the Ambition to do every thing in Great; he hated to enter into the Particulars of his Employ; he did shun Work and Application;

cation and was wholly addicted to his Pleasures. He was accused to have neglected the Navy ; but the greatest of his Crimes was, to have displeased the Marchioness, whose secret Charms he undervalued in a merry Song of his own Composition.

COUNT *D'Argenson* was a Minister imperious, absolute, jealous of his Authority, and of the King's Favour. The other Ministers were, properly, his Clerks. He would have had the Generals comply in every Thing with his Instructions ; but the late Marshal of *Saxe* would never yield to his haughty Temper, neither act according to his Directions. Proud, insolent, arbitrary, he was of a very difficult Access to the Officers ; he took but little Notice of their Petitions, and was very slow in doing them Justice : Many Abuses crept into the Army under his Ministry ; Emulation and Discipline fell to decay.

COUNT *St. Florentine*, who has been entrusted these many Years with the management of the Affairs of the Clergy, and of the Protestants of the Kingdom, has shewn himself, through the whole course of his Ministry, very moderate in his Principles ; averse to Persecution ; plain and honest in his Dealings : The narrow Sphere of his Ambition, has saved him from the distrustful Mistress's Jealousy.

MONS. *D'Machault*, Minister of the Navy, and Keeper of the Seals, had been before
Comp-

troller-General of the Finances: He has the Genius of all the public Employes, and has discharg'd those important Offices with the greatest Integrity, Honour, Disinterestedness, and Ability, in the most critical Times. He is, undoubtedly, a great Statesman: He was in all Respects well qualified to act his Part; and the elevation of his Spirit, did intitle him to the first Dignities of the State; Affable, civil, prudent, generous, intelligent, he was indefatigable for the Service of his King and Country. He began to put the *French* Navy on a respectable Footing; he used all his Interest to encourage and distinguish the Sea Officers of Merit; and acquired, by his Honesty, the Esteem and Confidence of the Nation. An Intrigue of Court has been the cause of his Fall. Your Majesty, conscious of his superior Talents, could not deny him a publick Acknowledgement of his glorious Administration.

MONS. *Rouille*, at first Minister of the Navy, afterwards Minister of the Foreign Affairs, had neither Genius nor Capacity requisite for those important Offices. He is a Man of very mean Talents; shallow, distrustful, stingy, and of a very hard Temper. He had lived unknown, had he not by meer Chance, been entrusted with the management of the Affairs of the Nation.

THE greatest merit of Mons. *Moras*, who succeeded M. de *Machault*, as Minister of the Navy, was to be the Son in Law of M. de *Secbelle*. He was

was besides Comptroller-General of the Finances. All the Nation has been surpris'd to see those two important Employ's united in his Person. He had neither Capacity nor Experience to fill them with Success; so after an inglorious Tryal, he was oblig'd to Resign.

MONS. de *Massiac* his Successor in the Navy, is a very good Sea-Officer; but as he was utterly a Stranger to all Court Intrigues, rather than kneel down before the Idol, he thought fit to retire.

THE Marquis de *Paulmy*, sometimes Minister of War, is a witty Man. The State of the *French* Armies in *Germany*, does not honour to his ministry. He had neither Knowledge of military Affairs, nor Power enough to reform the Abuses, and make himself respected.

CARDINAL *Bernis*, formerly Minister for the Foreign Affairs, is a Wit, and the Author of many elegant Pieces of Poetry. The old Bishop of *Mirepoix*, who had the List of Benefices, refused him an Abbey, because he looked upon him as a brisk, sprightly, gallant Abbot. The Count de *Bernis* answered, *My Lord, I am young enough to wait.* As he is naturally supple and pliant, he found means to be introduced to Court. He has been successively charged with different Negotiations at the Courts of *Venice* and *Vienna*, with the Character of Ambassador; but the master-piece of his Policy, and the cause of his Reputation and
Prefer-

Preferment, was the Treaty of *Versailles* with the Court of *Vienna*. He gave the first Idea of it, and met with much contradiction from the Ministry and the Council, who looked upon it as chimerical Proposal, and an unnatural Alliance. The Count *Bernis* insisted, and as the circumstances were favourable, he brought that famous Treaty to a conclusion, which has been the cause of so much Blood shed on both Sides, and of the Calamities of *Europe*. The Marchioness, who raised him to the Purple, was revenged of his ingratitude and arrogance by his Exile.

The Duke of *Choiseul*, who succeeded the Cardinal as Minister for the Foreign Affairs, had succeeded him in his Embassy at the Court of *Vienna*: Haughty, ignorant, and presumptuous, he is the professed Enemy of whoever attempts to have a share in Power with him. He hates Marshal *Belleville*, who despises him; and aims at the Dignity of First Minister, without having the most common Notions of Politicks and interior Administration.

MONS. *Berryer*, Minister of the Navy, is a Man of Letters. Time will shew if his Scheme of creating a maritime Power, equal to that of *England*, is practicable.

MONS. *Silhouette*, Comptroller-General of the Finances, has acquired the Esteem and Confidence of the Nation, by reducing the Farmers of the Revenue to Five Thousand Pounds a Year: They had

had formerly Fifteen Thousand Pounds without by Profits. He must be a Man of Spirit for having attacked all at once the Fortune and Vanity of that powerful Body: But he may be at last, the Victim of a Faction, whose Interest conspired to his Destruction.

'Tis pity that the Marshal *Belleisle*, whose eminent Merit and superior Knowledge are so universally known, had not been Minister of War ten Years sooner. That great Man, whose vast Genius and consummate Experience has been so much admired through all *Europe*, was desirous to serve the King in that Capacity long while ago: But the former Ministry, conscious of the superiority of his Talents, feared and hated him. He is too well acquainted with the History of all the Princes of *Europe*; the Constitution and the Climate of *Germany*; he has been himself too unsuccessful in the last War in *Bohemia*, to have sacrificed a Hundred Thousand Men, for the barbarous Pleasure of plundering the Electorate *Hanover*, that your Majesty ought to have protected, as a Guarantee of the Peace of *Westphalia*. If Marshal *Richlieu*, that elegant and voluptuous Courtier, had never been entrusted with the Command of the Army, your Officers and Soldiers had not, by their Licentiousness and Cruelty, brought upon the Nation Disgrace and Infamy. The Marshal *D'Estrees*, whose Ability and Success justly entitle him to the Rank of an accomplished General, had never been recall'd: The Prince *Soubise* had not, by his Imprudence,
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hazarded a Battle, where he lost his Reputation and so many Officers their Lives*: Your Army had not made a shameful Retreat, and been defeated by a Handful of *Hanoverians* and *Hessians*, at the Battle of *Crevelt*, under the Command of the Prince *Abbot Clermont*; whose Order of Battle was such, that its Left Wing could not be supported by the Main Body of his Army, and was engaged against the whole Force of Prince *Ferdinand*, who cut it in Pieces near your Frontiers. The Marquis de *Villemur*, who commanded when Prince *Ferdinand* passed the *Rhine* without Opposition, was, Doubtless, fast asleep. You have been Witness, Sir, of the undaunted Courage, and invincible Fortitude of the Marshal *Belleisle*; he felt severely the Loss of Count *Gisors*, his only Son, but without suffering himself to be cast down with Grief. Remember, Sir, the magnanimous Answer he made to the Compliment of Condolence your Majesty was most graciously pleased to pay him upon that Occasion. *Sir, my Son has lost his Life in your Service; and I shall devote myself for your Majesty till my Death!* The Count *Gisors* was a very hopeful young Nobleman: The Marshal *Belleisle* had neglected nothing for his Education, which was calculated for a General and a Statesman. During his Stay in *England*, he acquired the Esteem of all the Judges of true Merit: And that sagacious Nation admir'd, in a young *Frenchman*, Talents and Virtues which adorned the most illustrious Ages of *Greece* and *Rome*.

* At Rosback.

His Conduct at the Battle of *Hastenbeck* was a Master-piece of Generalship; and he fell at *Crevelt*, a Sacrifice to his Country, after having, at the Head of the *Carabineers*, given repeated Proofs of his Courage, Prudence, and Ability.

THE Kingdom that's divided cannot stand. Confusion and Discord reigns in your Councils; Jealousy betwixt your Ministers; Misunderstanding amongst your Generals; the Disputes betwixt your Parliament and the Clergy, cause every Day new Disturbances in the State; your Finances are exhausted; you have lost, Sir, the Flower of your Army in *Germany*, after having been at a vast Expence to send and maintain it; your Navy is destroy'd; the Commerce ruined; the Credit of the Nation irrecoverably lost; your Armies are fallen in Contempt, for want of Emulation, Subordination, and Discipline; your Coasts are exposed to the Insults and Hostilities of the most formidable Maritime Power; the *Bason of Cberburg* destroyed in the Sight of an Army who never durst stir up; *Senegal* and *Goree* taken; *Cape Breton* and *Guadalupe*, those valuable Acquisitions, are fallen into the Hands of the *English*.

"The Possession of *Cape-Breton* will not only distress your Subjects in their Fishery and Navigation, but secure the Possession of *Accadia* to the Crown of *Great-Britain*. The Reduction of that important Fortrefs, will put the *English* in sole Possession of the Fishery of *North-America*, extend their Navigation, cut off all Communication between *France* and *Canada*, by the River *St. Lawrence*, so that *Quebec* will fall of Course into the Hands of the *English*; who might expel your Subjects entirely from *America*; open a Correspondence with the remote *Indians*, and render themselves Masters of the profitable Fur Trade, which was engrossed by the Inhabitants, of your Colonies."—*Smollet's History of England*.

GUADALUPE is of the utmost Consequence to the Commerce of *France*: It furnished such Quantity of Sugar to *Europe* that the *English* did not think it worth their Trouble

ble to bring that Commodity from their own Plantations, because the *French* could undersel it in any Market in *Europe*. It is a delightful Country, susceptible of many Improvements; a Nursery of Seamen, and an important Addition to the *British* Dominions.

THE Conquest of the little and insignificant Island of *Minorca*, cannot make amends for so many Losses. It cannot hurt the *English* Trade in the *Levant*, as long as that Nation shall be able to keep a superior Fleet in the *Mediterranean*, and shall have Liberty to victual and refit their Ships in the Neutral Ports. The Possession of *Minorca* is an Acquisition rather expensive than advantageous to the *French*, who have Sea Ports enough upon that Coast.

THE *Islanders* and *Spaniards* in particular, flatter'd themselves with the Hopes that your Governors should maintain their Liberties and Privileges; and that a Nation who professes the *Roman Catholick* Religion, would have some Regard for the People of the same Communion, and assist with Reverence and Decency to the Divine Service; but they have been no less surpris'd than offended, at the scandalous Deportment of several young Officers of the Garrison, who went to Church to have an Occasion to debauch their Wives and Daughters, and grate their Ears by the most dissolute Discourses, and impudent fits of Laughing. The *English* Officers, though *Protestants*, behaved always with the greatest Reserve, and kept a Decorum in the Church. Their little Trade of the Island is stop'd, their Correspondence with *Barbary*, *Spain*, and *Italy*, is prohibited. None of the Inhabitants obtain Leave to go Abroad, except on a Cruise; and it is a cruel Oppression to have rais'd two new Regiments in that small Island. The *Minorcans* are now sensible of the Difference between
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an arbitrary and tyrannical Government, and a mild and equitable Administration.

THIS War has been rashly begun, absurdly carried on, and the End of it will be an ignominious Peace.

YOUR Kingdom, Sir, is afflicted with the most grievous Calamities. The Tillers, that Portion of Mankind, so useful in a State, are discouraged and overburdened with heavy Taxes, deserting their Cottages for fear of the Oppression of those barbarous Bailiffs and Collectors; so that the third Part of the Lands of your Kingdom are uncultivated; the Misery and Abjection of Mind of the Country People is inexpressible. In fine, Sir, all the Riches of the Kingdom are concentrated in the Capital: Some Princes of the Blood, and the Grandees of the Realm, are obliged to find out any Expedient to support their Rank and the Dignity of their Birth, whilst your Intendants, General Farmers, (those Blood-suckers) and many other petty Tyrants, raise immense Fortunes, and swim with Riches and Pleasures. Some of your Officers are not ashamed to prostitute their Character, and the Order of St. *Lewis*, which was instituted by your Royal Great Grandfather, as a Military Reward, in being Train Bearers to the Cardinals De *Luyes* and *Tavannes*. Some are Gentlemen of the Horse to your Noblemen; and the Marchioness has a Knight of St. *Lewes* for her Gentleman Usher. Your Officers, Sir, disgrace their Character by those mean Offices. Honour and distinguish those brave Men, whose noble Disposition is to serve their King and Country.

DEISM, Sir, is the predominant Religion in *France*. Profane and impious Men are a public Pest; for Religion ever so Superstitious, is the Cement of the Civil Society, an Incentive to Virtue, a Curb to Vice, a Prop to the
Laws

Laws, and the Support of the State. The true Religion is entirely averse to Persecution; Catholicks and Protestants are equally your dutiful Subjects.

WE cannot help attributing the Misfortunes of your Kingdom to the Frivolity, Luxury, Effeminacy, and Passion for Pleasure that prevails at present; which are attended with Dissipation, Incapacity, and continual Craving. Instead of studying their Duty, and qualifying themselves to discharge it; instead of attending to the Welfare and Interest of their Country, most of the Leading Men in your Army, to the Disgrace of the Nation, have minded only the enriching themselves by the Desolation and Ruin of the Enemy's Country; and whilst they authorise by their Example, and for their own private Gain, by the Commissaries, Malversations and Abuses, they have destroyed an Army, which under a Marshal of *Saxe*, would have given Law to all *Germany*! Bring back, Sir, by the Acts of a just Severity, the ancient spirit of Honour, Discipline, and *Œconomy*, by which the *French* Generals were distinguished in former Times.

It would be unjust to pass over in silence, the admirable Generosity of those two brave Generals, the Duke of *Randan*, and the Marquis *D'Armentiers*, whose mild and equitable Government at *Hanover* and *Zell*, have been so much celebrated. They became conspicuous for their Justice, Humanity, Disinterestedness, and Moderation; so as to acquire the Love of their Enemies, and the Esteem of Mankind.

THE just Disgrace of Count *Millebois*, cannot but make the Army sensible of the Loss of an Officer whose constant Application and superior Skill in all the Branches of the Art

Art of War, had made one of the most consummate Generals of his Age, if he had made a proper Use of his Talents. The Duke of *Broglie* is the only *French* General who has maintain'd, in this War, the Glory of his Nation.

WE cannot better conclude than in giving a sketch of the King of *Prussia*'s admirable Policy. What excellent Lesson for all Kings! That incomparable Prince, whether he presides to his Council, administers the interior Affairs of his Kingdom, or heads his Armies, displays all the Abilities of a Politician, all the Sagacity of a Legislator, and all the Magnanimity of a Hero. Minister and General himself, he has exhibited, since his Accession to the Throne, repeated Proofs of his undaunted Courage, invincible Fortitude, consummate Prudence, and sublime Generosity. Tho' sudden and impetuous in his Enterprizes, he is cool, deliberate, and indefatigable, in the Time of Danger and Difficulty. Inexorable to Offenders, rigid and severe in the Execution of Justice, he is doubtless an Object of the most perfect Esteem and Admiration; for, exclusive of all the Qualities which distinguish him as a Warrior, his personal Character is amiable in every Respect; his public Character acquires the Veneration of his Neighbours; and his private Life betrays no Blemish or Imperfection. Generous Benefactor to Men of Learning and Genius, he encourages Arts, Sciences, and Industry. Though parsimonious in his Household, his Court is hospitable without Pomp and Ostentation; and generally filled with a Concourse of Foreigners, who are charmed with his Elegance and Politeness. The Love of Glory is his favourite Passion; and he is certainly one of the best and greatest Monarchs that ever exercised the Functions of Sovereign Power.

POSTERITY will hardly believe, that the three greatest Powers

The Lamentations of, &c.

Powers of *Europe*, united to *Sweden* and the *Empire*, have been shamefully defeated by those invincible Legions that he trained up himself, by a learned and rigid Discipline, whose Military Courtiers give the first Example. If that magnanimous Prince has done Wonders with his little and barren Dominions, what noble Emulation and greatness of Spirit, had he imprinted in the *French* Nation, if Providence had destinated him to Govern this rich, vast, and populous Empire! The greatest Men must pay Tribute to Humanity: That Prince has certainly carried Revenge too far in *Saxony*: No Conqueror, before him, forced the Prisoners of War to serve against their own Sovereign: But the natural Sentiment of his Defence, when the most formidable League conspired to his Ruin, forced him oftentimes to act against his Principles.

REMEMBER, Sir, that the Power of a King does not properly consist in the Extent of his Dominions; Agriculture, Populousness, and Industry, create the Riches of a Nation, Apply yourself, Sir, to reform the dangerous Abuses which have crept in all the Branches of your Administration: There lies your most destructive Enemy. Consider, Sir, what Misfortunes and Disgrace an indolent, irresolute, profuse, and voluptuous Prince brings upon the most powerful Nation.

THE boasted Preparations of an Invasion, may delude, for a Time, your Subjects and your Enemies, even in supposing such a Scheme practicable. If your Majesty compares the Risk and the Difficulty of a desperate Expedition, with the Uncertainty of its Success, you will save yourself the Reproach of having sacrificed many Thousands of your Subjects to your blasted Ambition. A Nation who fights for its Liberty, Religion, and Property, is capable of the most magnanimous Efforts, against the Encroachments of a Despotick Invader. Who has the Empire of the Sea, has the Universal Monarchy.

WE are Well wishers to our Native Country; and if Providence has determined the Destruction of this flourishing Empire, let the future Ages learn, that your Reign was the *Era* of Tyranny and Oppression.

F · I · N · I · S ·



